

Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03

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R 111439Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1111

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 8099

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, EAIR, CG, BE, JA

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF SOVIET-BELGIAN CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT

1. BELGIAN COMMERCIAL OFFICER ADVISED COMMERCIAL ATTACHE JUNE 10 THAT DURING CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS HELD IN MOSCOW PREVIOUS WEEK, BELGIANS HAD SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING LONG- SOUGHT RIGHTS TO FLY BRUSSELS-MOSCOW-TOKYO ROUTE. IN EXCHANGE, BELGIANS WERE OBLIGED TO GRANT AEROFLOT RIGHT TO FLY MOSCOW- BRUSSELS-KINSHASA, WHICH BELGIAN SAID WAS MAJOR CONCESSION IN VIEW FACT THAT, FOR BOTH SABENA AND AIR ZAIRE, BRUSSELS- KINSHASA ROUTE IS EXTREMELY PROFITABLE. BELGIANS MUST NOW OBTAIN JAPANESE AGREEMENT TO BRUSSELS-MOSCOW-TOKYO SERVICE, AND BELGIAN SAID JAPANESE AND JAL WOULD DOUBTLESS DRIVE HARD BARGAIN.

2. COMMENT: SABENA'S ONCE-WEEKLY BRUSSELS-MOSCOW SERVICE WAS REESTABLISHED IN 1974 AFTER HIATUS OF SEVEAL YEAS SOLELY AS FIRST STEP IN SECURING TRANS-SIBERIAN RIGHTS. SABENA HAS BEEN SUFFERING HEAVY LOSSES ON EXISTING SERVICE TO MOSCOW BUT APPARENTLY EXPECTS THAT ADDITION OF ONCE-WEEKLY FLIGHT TO TOKYO VIA MOSCOW WILL MAKE OVERALL OPERATION PROFITABLE.

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Message Attributes

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